

# MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR



*M. R. A. C*  
HAMATEUR CHATTER



Bulletin of the Milwaukee Radio Amateur's Club, Inc.  
The World's Oldest Continuously Operating Radio Amateur Club.

Vol. 2 - No. 2

DEC. 1950

## CLUB BUYS NEW MOBILE STATION

The most important action by the Milwaukee Radio Amateur's Club since the decision to stage the National A.R.R.L. convention here in 1947 was announced by the board of directors this week. Spearheaded by funds made available from the success of the convention, the club has purchased a complete mobile radio station to be operated under the club call letters, W9HRM.

At a cost of more than \$4,000.00 a 1950 International ton-and-a-half panel type truck has been obtained, together with two transmitters, receiving equipment and power equipment and trailer. The complete unit was purchased by the club primarily for use by the club's emergency corps in cooperation with local civil defense authorities. It will also serve as a field day station and committees will be formed to conduct various experiments in the art from time to time with the new equipment. According to club president, Fred Zolin, the set-up will be available to promote civic goodwill in events such as the October Community Fund parade which was featured by individual Milwaukee amateurs and their mobile stations.

The equipment installed in the truck will include a Collins 32V transmitter, rated at 125 watts on phone, and an HRO 7 receiver. A Harvey Wells transmitter, using a single 807 and rated at 50 watts on phone will be used for mobile in motion. The PE 75 two and a half kilowatt power unit will be housed in a six foot trailer, according to Louie Wollaeger, W9ANA, in charge of the project. All of the equipment will be installed and ready to operate in 60 days.

# W9FDX/M

## WINS TEN METER MOBILE COMPETITION

A mobile rig paced the field in the annual M.R.A.C. Ten Meter local contact contest staged last month. Two widely separated fixed stations tied for second place and two more fixed stations tied for third spot.

Doug Pavek, W9FDX/Mobile, took his 20 watt tri-band rig to one of the highest sections of the city as he contacted 28 of the 29 stations submitting logs during the hour-long competition. He operated from top of the high hill two blocks north of Milwaukee's Garfield Park section and had little trouble pacing the field. He was, however, joined for about fifteen minutes by two squad car patrolmen who were curious and then paused to survey the proceedings.

Bringing up the next spot were two of the city's better known hams, Jack Doyle, W9GPI, and Frank Maiorana, W9TPT, Appletree Lane, Westchester, Waukesha County. They each had 26 contacts. Frank had his beam pointed at Milwaukee and his BC-610 transmitter cut a wide swath in the band along with Jack Doyle's efficient operation as they chased each other up and down the kilocycles.

Tied for third place were W9RKP, Russ Burss, and W9LVR, Russ Greenwood, with 25 QSO's. W9GLA, Charles Wittkop, and W9GIL, John Scarcaci, were others in the select over twenty contact group with 24 and 22 logged, respectively. Thirty-five stations participated in the tests, but six failed to submit logs, according to contest chairman, Doug Kluge, W9NKK. Doug was assisted in handling the contest by the old ultra-high stand-by, George Pfister, W9IZQ.

The lowest power used by any of the stations was W9IZQ's eight watts. Several stations operated with a high of 275 watts, although more than half of the rigs were powered with less than fifty watts. Twenty-two of the 29 stations used AM, five reported with FM and there were two screen modulated rigs. No CW stations entered the contest. The single most popular antenna employed was the conventional ten meter three element beam, employed by eleven of the participants.

The contest served to bring out of hibernation such old timers as Bill Gainer, W9SO, who appeared to be "rock-bound" on the low end of the band, W9RKP, W9GSP, W9GIL, W9MWD and many others. Other than that, it made it tough for TV devotees to watch "Studio One" in its usual Sunday night spot.

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### ATTENTION M.R.A.C. MEMBERS

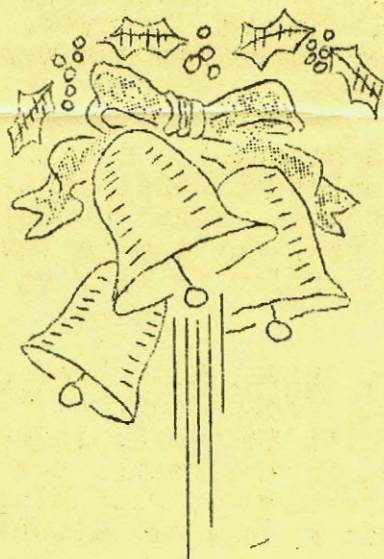
The regular Thursday night meeting on Dec. 28 has been shifted to the Pabst Blue Ribbon Hall. It will be restricted to club members and will be known as Old Timers Night. Festivities will begin at 7:30 PM and will again be under the direction of Clarence Crapo, W9VD. Clarence will project his fine collection of slides, and the gathering promises to be a gala affair where as in past years, the old spark days are compared with the present.



# WISCONSIN'S

## HAM HEADQUARTERS

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SWAP: Eimac 100 TH (not surplus) for good 813 and socket (prefer not surplus). George Pfister, W9IZQ

WANTED: Used commercial 10 meter mobile rig and converter. W9LPF

## M R A C

### HAMATEUR CHATTER

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Fred H. Zolin, President  
Louis A. Wollaeger, V. Pres.  
Les. Thelaner, Sec'y.  
Emil R. Felber, Jr. Treas.

### STAFF

Sidney R. Rose, Editor  
Ellis Saxton, Business Manager  
James Fischer, Publisher

Address all correspondence relative to the Bulletin  
to Sid. Rose, Editor, 5520 W. Wells St.

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### NEW EMERGENCY CORPS GROUP FORMED

A new plan to provide an impetus to the organization and operation of amateur radio emergency corps communications in the Milwaukee area was agreed upon this week by representatives of the Milwaukee Radio Amateur's Club and the county's coordinators of emergency corps activity.

What has been almost a separate entity in the past because of a series of apparent misunderstandings will now become a close knit and important function of the club. An absolute body consisting of two members of the Emergency Corps and a like number of M.R.A.C. directors has been set up to form the nucleus of the streamlined organization.

Foremost in the accelerated program has been the decision to designate the first Thursday of each month as Emergency Corps night and the entire meeting will be turned over to emergency work discussions. Committee members decided upon this arrangement because of their desire to acquaint a wider portion of local hamdom with the importance of the Corps and in order to bring out from under the barrel the various functions of the group. It is hoped that additional members will be recruited from this wider, ready-made audience.

The new committee, consisting of Ralph Koenig, W9RUF, County Emergency Coordinator; Fred H. Zolin, W9ONY, M.R.A.C. President; G. Hutchinson, W9FTY, M.R.A.C. Director, and Clarence Wahner, W9YYY, Section Emergency Coordinator, is attempting to get a more solid and widespread list of those hams who can be depended upon both for fixed and portable station set-ups. Emergency power operation, particularly, is of paramount importance. The new mobile truck described elsewhere in this issue is to be relied upon by the committee as a possible control station.

\* \* \* \* \*

NOTE! NOTE! NOTE!

The Newark Electric Co. ad should read Dept. S-111 and 164 page catalog.

# Gettelman Rathskeller

## SERVES CLUB WELL

The United Nations has its Lake Success. Heinz has its varieties. And the Milwaukee Radio Amateur's Club has its Gettelman Rathskeller.

Closely identified with almost every major club activity during the past decade, the Gettelman Brewery Rathskeller has become a rallying point from which plans have been hatched and later brought to fulfillment. It has become a familiar meeting place for the board of directors, the mobile division and the emergency corps. Almost every club member at one time or another has had reason to descend the stairway into the brewery's original "aging cellar". It was in the Rathskeller where Jack Doyle first brought his full committees together for meeting with American Radio Relay League officials to lay out the plans and program for the National Convention which proved to be such a resounding success a year later.

The cellar is in the oldest part of the original brewery started by Tom Gettelman's (W9IZO) great-grandfather, George Schweickhart, in 1854. It was rehabilitated after a fire in 1871, when the firm was known as the Menomonee Valley Brewing Company. In 1887, Adam A. Gettelman changed the brewery to its present well known name, but it wasn't until 1914 when new aging cellars were built that the use of the present rathskeller was discontinued for the former purpose.

In 1937, Tom's father, Fred Gettelman, the present president of the organization, furnished the cellar with furniture at least fifty years old so as to retain the old Milwaukee atmosphere as he entertained the national convention of the brewmaster's group there. It was shortly after this that Tom, today a vice-president of the brewery, took advantage of the facilities and offered them for the club's use. During the countless occasions that the club has taken advantage of the brewery's hospitality unlimited and uncounted barrels of beer have been quaffed "on the house" along with rye bread, cheeses and cold meats.

Now in his early thirties, Tom Gettelman has been an active ham since he was fourteen, and he presently lives with his family in Elm Grove. He uses a BC-610 transmitter on 10 and 20, and he regularly operates the same bands with his mobile rig.

(This is the first of a series of feature stories on club members whose service to the M.R.A.C. has stood out over a period of years.)

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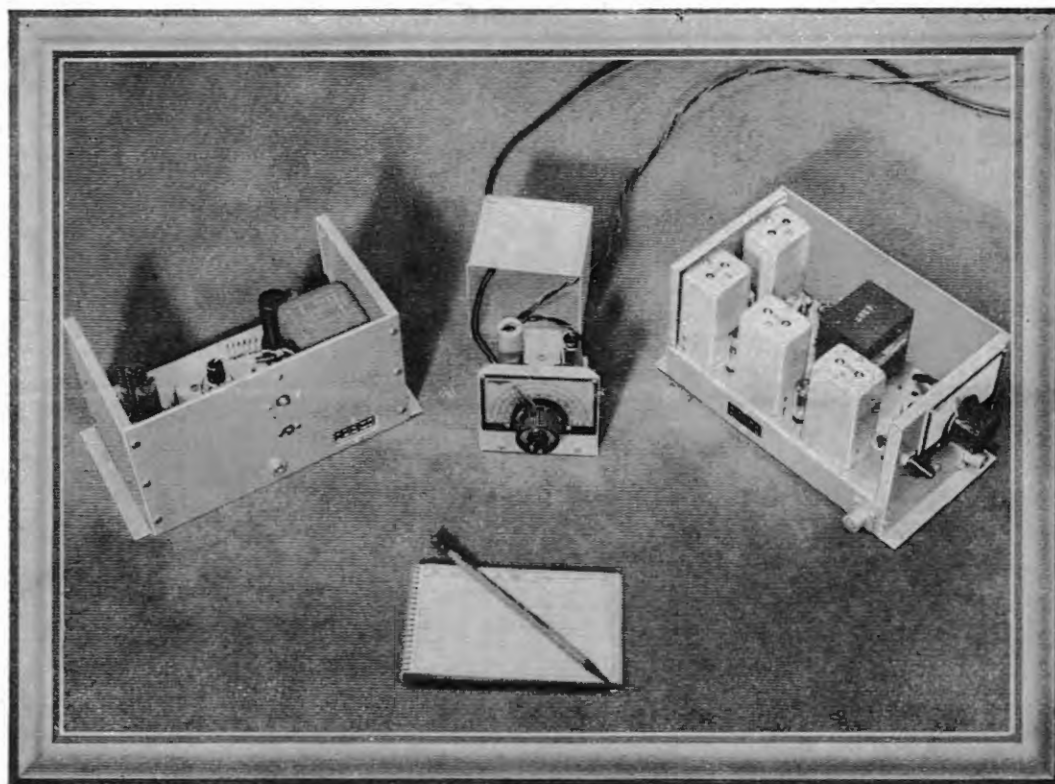
### FRED CATEL HAS NEW HOBBY

Fred Catel, W9DTK, the ex-Wisconsin Avenue merchant, police radio technician, top ranking naval communications officer, aircraft warning expert, and more lately, world traveler has a new hobby. During his recent junket to the west coast Fred started taking pictures of state capitols. He has plans to take more of the same during future trips east, and he hopes to complete the 48 state circuit in the next few years. He combines mobile ham operation with his photography and it all adds up to "nice work if you can get it."



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Crystal control transmitter designed for operation in the 144–150 mc bands; 6AQ5 doublers; 5763 high-frequency pentode driving 2E26 final up to 22 Watts input.

6C4 speech amplifier for carbon microphone input driving 6V6 modulators. A modified pi network is provided for ease of coupling to any co-ax fed 2-meter antenna. Low power plate drain is only 300 v., 150 to 200 ma depending upon plate loading. Coax output and integral antenna switching included. All tuning controls are screw-driver adjusted to minimize detuning when used in mobile installations. Parts are conservatively rated to provide trouble-free performance. Layout and circuit design insures stable operation equal to standard low-frequency equipment.

Metal cabinets 5½" x 9½" x 5½" for both transmitter and receiver are finished in a handsome hammertone baked enamel. Flanges are provided for universal mounting in any convenient position. Jones plug and co-ax connectors on both transmitter and receiver units make installation rapid and positive. Standard components and tubes are used throughout should replacement of parts be necessary. Any power supply may be used capable of providing 300 volts at 200 ma. Separate or dual vibrator supplies are available as well as antennas, crystals, and all other accessories.

\*Less power supply

### PRICES

2-meter receiver in kit form.....	\$59.95
2-meter receiver wired and tested.....	94.95
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## W9KEG JOINS CLUB AFTER SPEECH

Among the new club members is Prof. Frank Karioris, head of the Physics Department at Marquette University. The professor gave one of the most well received lectures in recent years at a club meeting in November when he spoke on and demonstrated the Geiger counter. In addition to being well versed on his timely subject, Prof. Karioris has been an active ham on 40 meters, and the club accepted his membership application after his talk. When Fred Zolin, W9ONY, club president, first asked Prof. Karioris to speak at a club meeting he was not aware that the Marquette physicist was a ham. It later developed that he had the call W9KEG, and it is assumed that there is at least one other club member who would give his last pair of 866 juniors for the same call.

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### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Alex Brzuszkiewicz	W9LUC	Luther M. Lorance	Associate
Robert E. Lathrob	W9LJV	Ambrose M. Gurriel	Associate
Howard E. Lasanske	W9FNL	Will E. Herzog	W9LSK
Fred E. Ebel	W9PXA	Philip S. Lehmann	W9LAK
Daniel Freiburger	W9HDE	William J. Birch	W9PNC
Harold Anderson	Associate	Gilbert W. Rink	W9GMP
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Robert J. Bohmann	W9IZH	Richard Soref	W9LIC
Walter J. Holzer	W9AVF	Ronnie Kalkhoff	W9EBJ
Ray H. Host	W9HTJ	Joe Thompson	W9LJT
James H. Ott	W9LCD	Thomas Herzog	Associate
Walter J. Burke	W9JCW	Frank J. Albert, Jr.	W9NGM
Paul V. Hoecher	W9NQH	Clarence Christiansen	Associate
Steve Potyandy	W9EAN	Albert Gibes	W9LVV
Armando Huaman	<u>OA4BL</u>	Robert R. Huntzman	W9THN
Leroy E. Watson	W9OLV	Frank G. Karioris	W9KEG
Lester Moldenhauer	Associate		

## CODE CLASSES ON AIR RESUMED

Code practice, once a regular part of pre-war amateur radio, particularly on 160 meter phone, has returned to 10 meters. Two of the band's regular ground wave rag chewers have arranged to transmit code classes during three periods of an hour each during every week. The frequency used is 29,100 kilocycles. Classes are conducted at 8 P.M. Tuesdays and Wednesdays by Jimmy Ott, W9LCD, 4244 N. Wilson Dr., and on Fridays by Joe Thompson, W9LJT. Joe is a patient at the V.A. hospital at Wood and recently had his picture in The Journal as he banged out his weekly lesson. Both of the mentors of the art of copying code are newly licensed hams.

In the period 1935 to 1941, the code classes on 160 meters gave embryo hams an opportunity to pick up the speed necessary to pass the exam. The editor of this periodic gazette learned his code via that medium, and it paid dividends on the high speed air force nets in the years that followed.

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### "George and Jackie"

"Say hello to George and Jackie," is the most repeated phrase on the ham bands as Milwaukee amateurs contact DX from Charleston to Ceylon. George and Jackie have replaced "Mike and Herman" or even Jack Carson and Dennis Morgan as those "Two guys from Milwaukee". The question that now comes up is, "Who hasn't George and Jackie Toppe, W9AYX, contacted?"

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### Mobile Notes

The Mobile Division of the club again performed in highly efficient style Nov. 8, cooperating in holding together the Marquette University Homecoming parade. The affair was in great danger of getting out of hand because of the driving rainstorm that night, but the parade committee relied almost exclusively on the six mobiles made available to hold the floats together and later to assist in moving them up Wisconsin Avenue. The mobile stations used were W9UMX, W9IDW, W9HTJ, W9VQD, W9IZH, and W9SNK.

Charlie Kaetel, W9SNK/M, has reached the top of the class, having received a QSL from ZL2MU, confirming his contact with that New Zealand station recently. Contacts are made and QSL's are received, but the "rare ones" are few and far between on ten meters this season, fixed or mobile.

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